

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 13111 240932Z

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SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S SPEECH BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS

PASS TO:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, UNITED STATES SENATE.

1. THE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE AWARE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS IN THE AREA OF AGRICULTURE EMERGING FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS LAST WEDNESDAY. SPECIFICALLY, HE CALLED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

A. INCREASED ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.
(THE FOREIGN AID BILL WHICH WAS REPORTED OUT OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON AUGUST 22 AUTHORIZES AN APPROPRIATION WHICH, WITH RECEIPTS AND RECOVERIES, WILL MAKE \$619,700,000 AVAILABLE FOR ASSISTANCE ON PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS TO EXPAND FOOD PRODUCTION AND IMPROVE NUTRITION IN POOR COUNTRIES FOR FY75. THIS REPRESENTS A \$200 MILLION INCREASE IN AUTHORIZATION OVER THE FIGURE FOR FY74, AND A \$55 MILLION REDUCTION IN THE FY75 BUDGET REQUEST.)

B. AN INTERNATIONALLY COORDINATED BUT NATIONALLY CONTROLLED SYSTEM OF FOOD RESERVES.

C. INCREASED FOOD AID. (THE FY75 FOOD AND NUTRITION BUDGET AS REPORTED BY THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE INCLUDES \$955 MILLION FOR PL480. TO MAINTAIN THE LEVEL OF COMMODITIES INITIALLY PLANNED FOR WHEN THE BUDGET WAS
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PAGE 02 ROME 13111 240932Z

FORMULATED WOULD REQUIRE AN ADDITIONAL \$500 PLUS MILLION.)

THE PRESIDENT IS CONSIDERING AN INCREASE OVER THE CURRENT FY75
FIGURE FOR PL480 OF UP TO \$500 MILLION. AT THIS POINT IT
APPEARS THAT THERE WILL BE SOME INCREASE, BUT THAT SPECIFIC
COMMITMENTS WILL BE MADE ON A QUARTERLY BASIS. SUPPORT FOR
INDOCHINA WILL REMAIN A TOP PRIORITY WITH HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE REDUCED TO VERY LOW LEVELS.

2. AMBASSADOR MARTIN OFFERED THE BASIC PROVISIONS OF THE
PRESIDENT'S SPEECH TO THE PRELIMINARY MEETING OF THE
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE MOST
OF WHICH WERE WELL RECEIVED BY THE DELEGATIONS PRESENT.

MESSAGE PREPARED FOR THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FORESTRY BY TOM SAYLOR, PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER.BEAUDRY

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED US SENATE

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